PRICES MONITORING SURVEY

DECEMBER 2000

MBS 2000-11

PRICE: $25

MARCH 2001

Manitoba
Bureau of
Statistics

Introduction:

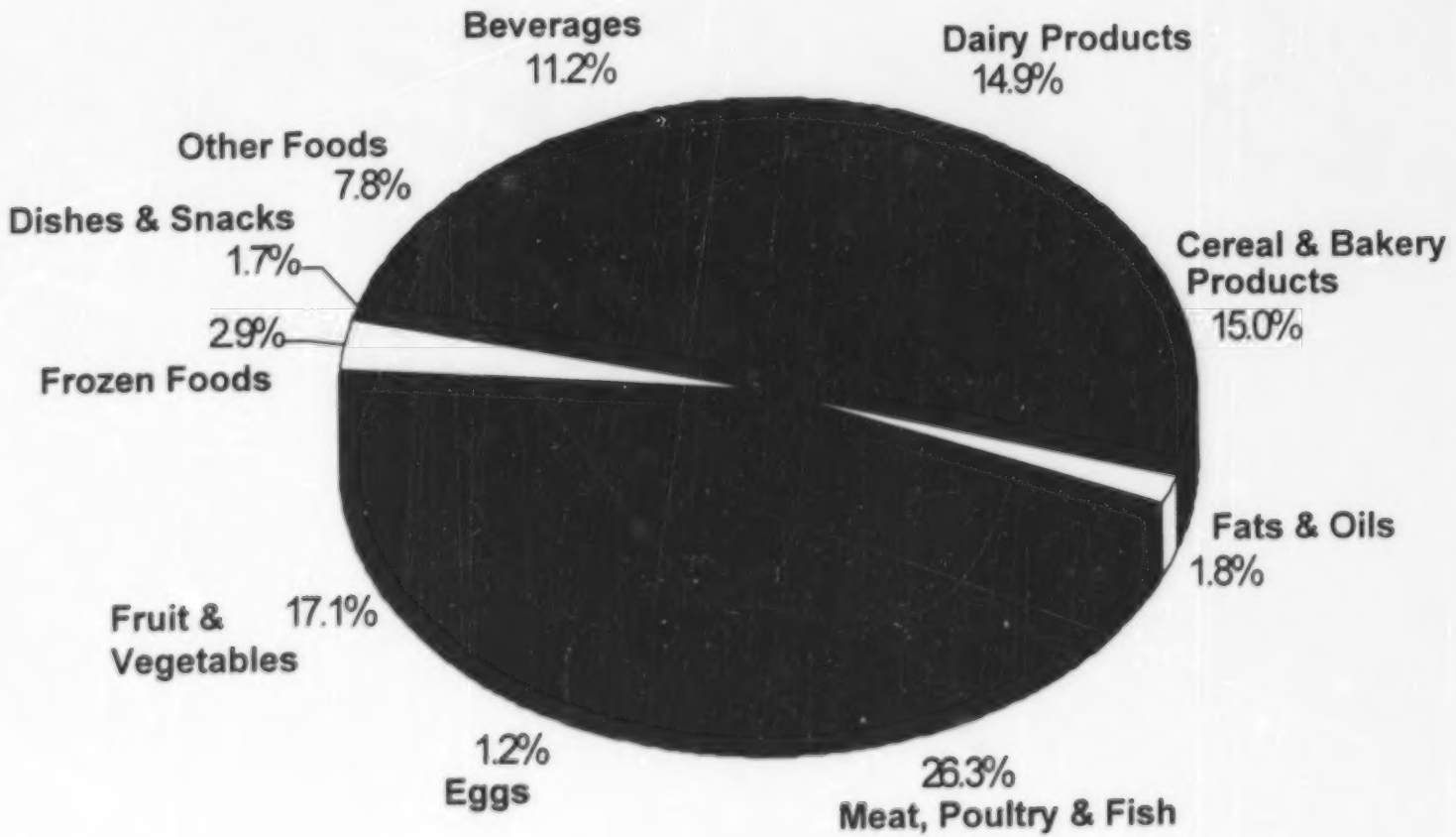
In December of each year, the Manitoba Bureau of Statistics (MBS) conducts the Food Prices Monitoring Survey. The survey's objective is to collect, tabulate and disseminate current information on the relative cost of food for home consumption in various Manitoba communities. Geographically, the survey includes Winnipeg and Brandon in southern Manitoba as well as a number of communities in northern Manitoba.

A Winnipeg weighting scheme, containing food weights from the Consumer Price Index, is used for all communities. This assumes that residents in the other communities have a similar food consumption pattern to Winnipeg residents. That is, they spend the same proportion of their food dollar on the various food groups.

Table 1 presents the spatial indices for the 15 communities surveyed in December 2000. A spatial index is a place-to-place comparison of prices at a particular point in time. In the MBS survey, the reference community is Winnipeg. Thus, calculated spatial indices represent the relative price differential between each community and Winnipeg. Note that due to data collection problems, Food Price Indices have not been developed for Berens River and Flin Flon for 2000.

Table 2 presents the average prices, on a matched brand basis, of a subset of the food items priced in Winnipeg and the other 15 communities in December 2000. Tables 3 and 4, in the Appendix, present the spatial indices and the average prices of a subset of the items sampled for the 17 communities in the December 1999 Survey.

2000 Food Group Weights



Manitoba Bureau of Statistics
Prices Monitoring Survey, 2000

I. Spatial Food Indices:

Food Price Indices were produced for 15 Manitoba communities in 2000. Community indices range from a low of 103.1 for Brandon to a high of 197.4 for Island Lake. That is, on a weighted average basis, Brandon prices are 3.1% higher than Winnipeg prices and Island Lake prices are 97.4% higher than Winnipeg prices.

Indices are calculated by comparing the average price of food items from retail stores in each community to the average price of the same item (matched for brand and size) from Winnipeg's major retail grocery chains. The survey is based upon a food basket containing ten food groups weighted with the current Consumer Price Index food weights for Winnipeg, as follows.

FOOD GROUP	GROUP WEIGHT (%)
Dairy Products	14.9
Cereal & Bakery Products	15.0
Fats & Oils	1.8
Meat, Poultry & Fish	26.3
Eggs	1.2
Fruit & Vegetables	17.1
Frozen Foods	2.9
Dishes & Snacks	1.7
Other Foods	7.8
Beverages	11.2
TOTAL FOOD BASKET	100.0 %

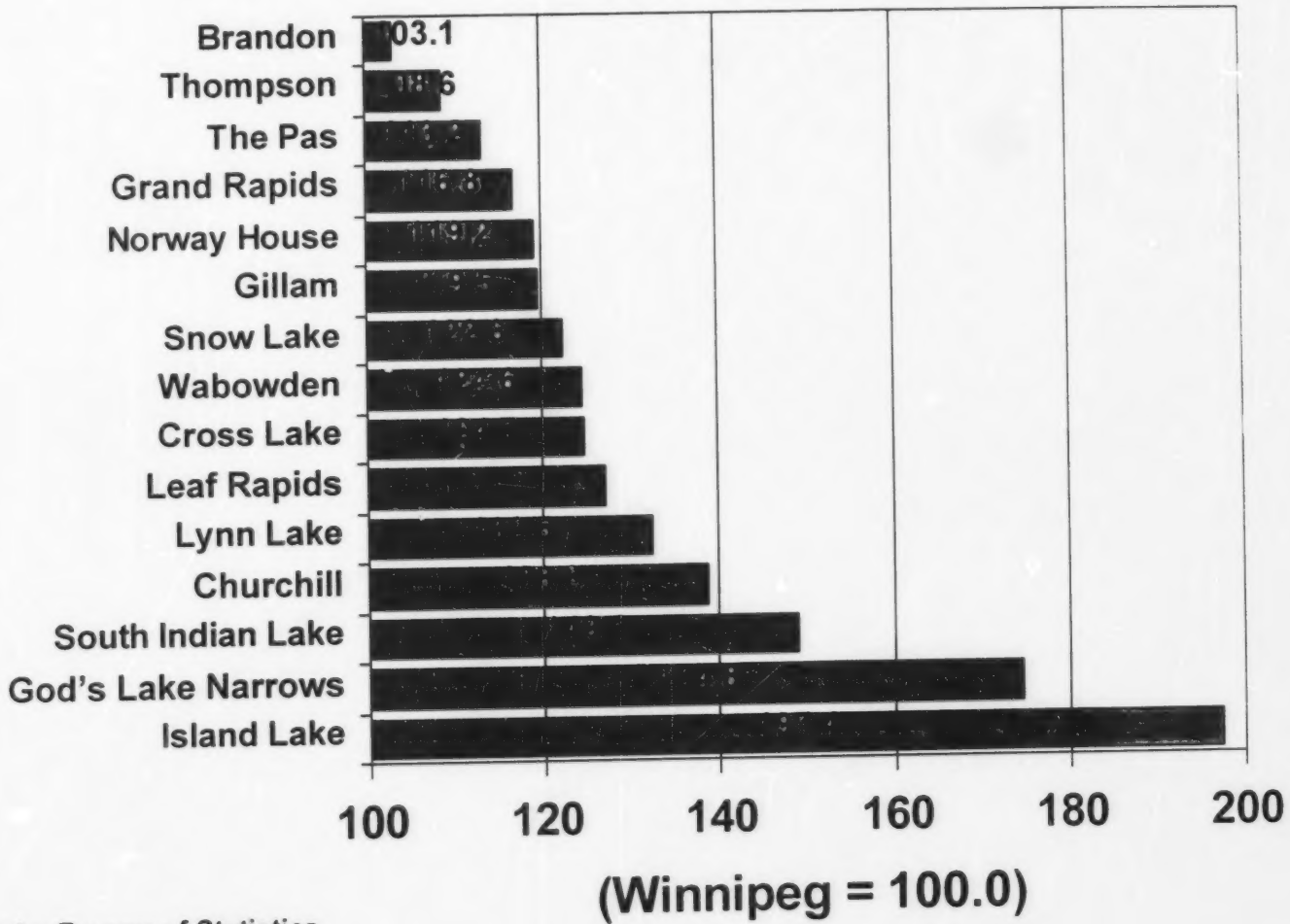
In the December 2000 survey, as for previous years, lowest Food Price Indices occurred in Brandon (103.1), Thompson (108.6) and The Pas (113.2).

Seven other communities have "medium low" indices, in the range 115.0 - 130.0: Grand Rapids (116.8), Norway House (119.2), Gillam (119.5), Snow Lake (122.3), Wabowden (124.6), Cross Lake (124.7) and Leaf Rapids (127.0).

Three communities have "medium high" indices, in the range 130.0 - 150.0: Lynn Lake (132.5.), Churchill (138.8) and South Indian Lake (149.1).

The two communities with the highest Food Price Indices in 2000 continue to be God's Lake Narrows (174.8) and Island Lake (197.4).

2000 Food Price Indices



Manitoba Bureau of Statistics
Prices Monitoring Survey, 2000

Communities with the Lowest Indices:

Three of the fifteen communities surveyed consistently have the lowest Food Price Indices in comparison to Winnipeg; Brandon at 103.1, Thompson at 108.6 and The Pas at 113.2. The Index for Flin Flon is also historically low, averaging a few points higher than The Pas. However, due to data collection problems, Flin Flon was not included in the December 2000 survey.

In Brandon, food group indices range from 100.0 for Dairy Products to 106.9 for Eggs. Brandon has the lowest index, among the 15 communities surveyed, for 8 of the 10 food groups. Gillam has a lower index for Fats & Oils (101.3 compared to 101.9 for Brandon) and The Pas has a lower index for Frozen Foods (104.9 compared to 106.2 for Brandon). Several communities also have lower indices than Brandon in the following sub-groups: poultry, fish and fresh vegetables.

The lowest index for Poultry occurs in Wabowden (78.2), followed by Norway House (100.0), Snow Lake (101.1), Grand Rapids (101.2) and Brandon (101.6). The lowest index for Fish occurs in Norway House (101.0), followed by The Pas (103.2), Gillam (103.4) and Brandon (105.2). The lowest index for Fresh Vegetables occurs in Norway House (95.9), followed by Snow Lake (102.8), Wabowden (104.0) and Brandon (104.1).

Thompson, with the second lowest Food Price Index (108.6), has food group indices ranging from 105.1 for Cereal & Bakery Products to 113.1 for Dishes & Snacks. The next highest food group indices in Thompson are for Dairy Products (112.4) and Eggs (110.3). The next lowest food group indices are for Fats & Oils (105.5) and Frozen Foods (107.9).

The Pas, with the third lowest Food Price Index in the December 2000 survey (113.2), has food group indices ranging from 104.9 for Frozen Foods to 121.6 for Eggs. The next highest food group indices in The Pas are for Beverages (121.5) and Dishes & Snacks (119.1). The next lowest food group indices are for Meat, Poultry & Fish (107.7) and Fats & Oils (107.9).

In Brandon, Thompson and The Pas, Fats & Oils is among the three lowest food group indices, while Eggs and Dishes & Snacks are among the three highest. In The Pas, Beverages has the second highest food group index.

Beverages has the highest food group index for all but three of the twelve remaining communities. In Grand Rapids Beverages (138.3) is second to Eggs (141.7), in Lynn Lake Beverages (146.1) is second to Dishes & Snacks (165.6) and in God's Lake Narrows Beverages (206.1) is second to Dairy Products (209.0).

TABLE 1: SPATIAL RETAIL FOOD PRICE INDICES FOR SELECTED MANITOBA COMMUNITIES
DECEMBER, 2000

FOOD GROUPS	BERENS RIVER	BRANDON	CHURCHILL	CROSS LAKE	FLIN FLON	GILLAM	GOD'S LAKE NARROWS	GRAND RAPIDS	ISLAND LAKE
				(WINNIPEG = 100.0)					
DAIRY PRODUCTS	...	100.0	153.3	131.8	...	126.5	209.0	115.6	212.7
CEREAL & BAKERY PRODUCTS	...	104.7	133.4	114.4	...	108.2	163.8	109.3	169.6
FATS & OILS	...	101.9	123.7	115.3	...	101.3	142.6	107.3	155.2
MEAT, POULTRY & FISH	...	103.5	114.7	115.2	...	116.2	142.7	109.6	157.6
Meat	...	103.7	116.9	113.9	...	119.8	147.1	112.2	163.0
Poultry	...	101.6	111.1	124.9	...	110.6	143.0	101.2	161.8
Fish	...	105.2	107.1	105.7	...	103.4	114.4	108.5	115.6
EGGS	...	106.9	133.2	130.7	...	122.7	178.8	141.7	219.6
FRUIT & VEGETABLES	...	103.2	139.5	129.2	...	121.5	195.5	120.2	211.9
Fresh Fruit	...	104.9	149.8	132.7	...	128.7	207.5	126.3	246.9
Processed Fruit	...	99.3	135.4	118.6	...	110.1	166.3	112.7	187.7
Fresh Vegetables	...	104.1	132.5	135.3	...	125.5	212.3	121.5	204.0
Processed Vegetables	...	103.6	134.6	121.5	...	108.9	164.5	112.0	167.2
FROZEN FOODS	...	106.2	144.4	122.9	...	109.1	158.8	110.9	192.6
DISHES & SNACKS	...	106.6	166.3	122.3	...	132.7	160.2	116.1	176.3
OTHER FOODS	...	102.8	133.9	124.2	...	115.6	164.2	119.9	175.4
BEVERAGES	...	102.7	182.9	146.5	...	136.0	206.1	138.3	309.6
COMMUNITY INDEX	...	103.1	138.8	124.7	...	119.5	174.8	116.8	197.4

... DATA NOT AVAILABLE

DATA SOURCE: MANITOBA BUREAU OF STATISTICS
PRICES MONITORING SURVEY

Communities With Medium Low Indices (115.0 - 130.0):

Seven of the communities surveyed have relatively low Food Price Indices, in the range 115.0 to 130.0; Grand Rapids (116.8), Norway House (119.2), Gillam (119.5), Snow Lake (122.3), Wabowden (124.6), Cross Lake (124.7) and Leaf Rapids (127.0).

In six of these communities, Beverages has the highest food group index. It ranges from 136.0 in Gillam and 137.6 in Norway House, to 154.0 in Leaf Rapids and 167.3 in Wabowden. In Grand Rapids, Eggs has the highest food group index (141.7) followed by Beverages (138.3).

Eggs has the second highest food group index in Wabowden (143.2) and third highest in Cross Lake (130.7). Dairy Products and Dishes & Snacks also tend to be among the highest food groups in these communities.

Dishes & Snacks has the second highest index in Norway House (135.1), Gillam (132.7) and Leaf Rapids (138.1), and third highest in Wabowden (134.5). Dairy Products has the third highest index in Norway House (129.5), Gillam (126.5), Snow Lake (128.7) and Leaf Rapids (128.8), and second highest in Cross Lake (131.8).

Cereal & Bakery Products, Fats & Oils, and Meat, Poultry & Fish tend to be among the lowest priced food groups in these communities, relative to Winnipeg.

Fats & Oils is among the three lowest food group indices for six of these seven communities. It has the lowest index in Grand Rapids (107.3), Gillam (101.3) and Leaf Rapids (107.7), and third lowest in Norway House (110.0), Snow Lake (118.9) and Cross Lake (115.3). The Fats & Oils index for Wabowden is 124.6.

Meat, Poultry & Fish is among the three lowest food group indices for five of these communities. It has the lowest index in Snow Lake (109.4) and Wabowden (113.3), is second lowest in Norway House (110.0) and Cross Lake (115.2) and third lowest in Grand Rapids (109.6). The Meat, Poultry & Fish index in the other two communities is 116.2 for Gillam and 122.5 for Leaf Rapids.

Cereal & Bakery Products is also among the three lowest food group indices for five of these seven communities. It has the lowest index in Cross Lake (114.4), and is second lowest in Grand Rapids (109.3), Gillam (108.2), Wabowden (114.5) and Leaf Rapids (118.0). The Cereal & Bakery Products index in the other two communities is 122.8 for Norway House and 120.9 for Snow Lake.

TABLE 1: (Cont.) SPATIAL RETAIL FOOD PRICE INDICES FOR SELECTED MANITOBA COMMUNITIES
DECEMBER, 2000

FOOD GROUPS	LEAF RAPIDS	LYNN LAKE	NORWAY HOUSE	SNOW LAKE	SOUTH INDIAN LAKE	THE PAS	THOMPSON	WABOWDEN
	(WINNIPEG = 100.0)							
DAIRY PRODUCTS	128.8	143.2	129.5	128.7	180.2	116.1	112.4	127.5
CEREAL & BAKERY PRODUCTS	118.0	132.3	122.8	120.9	136.5	114.3	105.1	114.5
FATS & OILS	107.7	125.4	110.0	118.9	119.3	107.9	105.5	124.6
MEAT, POULTRY & FISH	122.5	119.7	110.0	109.4	119.7	107.7	108.1	113.3
Meat	123.6	123.5	114.2	111.9	122.8	109.0	109.2	122.9
Poultry	125.1	107.5	100.0	101.1	114.8	105.5	104.8	78.2
Fish	110.5	118.2	101.0	108.2	108.5	103.2	107.7	116.5
EGGS	121.5	135.3	118.9	119.5	150.4	121.6	110.3	143.2
FRUIT & VEGETABLES	127.1	128.8	107.9	116.4	160.3	111.1	108.3	118.0
Fresh Fruit	146.3	140.4	106.6	116.2	187.8	110.2	108.2	133.8
Processed Fruit	119.6	124.8	124.7	131.3	122.8	112.8	108.9	109.6
Fresh Vegetables	113.6	118.6	95.9	102.8	164.8	110.8	108.5	104.0
Processed Vegetables	119.7	129.9	112.5	127.3	134.5	111.4	106.5	128.4
FROZEN FOODS	122.6	128.5	124.1	132.7	121.6	104.9	107.9	117.1
DISHES & SNACKS	138.1	165.6	135.1	126.8	164.2	119.1	113.1	134.5
OTHER FOODS	121.5	140.0	119.0	122.5	148.7	118.8	108.9	127.1
BEVERAGES	154.0	146.1	137.6	152.0	186.1	121.5	109.0	167.3
COMMUNITY INDEX	127.0	132.5	119.2	122.3	149.1	113.2	108.6	124.6

... DATA NOT AVAILABLE

DATA SOURCE: MANITOBA BUREAU OF STATISTICS
PRICES MONITORING SURVEY

Communities With Medium High Indices (130.0 – 150.0):

Three communities in the December 2000 survey possess medium high Food Price Indices, between 130.0 and 150.0; Lynn Lake at 132.5, Churchill at 138.8 and South Indian Lake at 149.1. Food price data for Berens River was missing in the 2000 survey. The Berens River index is typically in the low 150's.

In Lynn Lake, food group indices range from 119.7 for Meat, Poultry & Fish, to 165.6 for Dishes & Snacks. In Churchill, food group indices range from 114.7 for Meat, Poultry & Fish, to 182.9 for Beverages. In South Indian Lake, food group indices range from 119.3 for Fats & Oils, to 186.1 for Beverages.

These three communities follow very similar patterns in terms of which food groups are higher or lower priced compared to Winnipeg. For all three communities, the food groups with the three highest indices are Beverages, Dishes & Snacks and Dairy Products. The food groups with the two lowest indices are Meat, Poultry & Fish and Fats & Oils. Frozen Foods has the third lowest food group index in Lynn Lake (128.5) and South Indian Lake (121.6). Eggs has the third lowest food group index in Churchill, at 133.2.

Communities With the Highest Indices (Higher than 150.0):

God's Lake Narrows and Island Lake consistently have the highest Food Price Indices among communities surveyed each year. For December 2000, these indices are 174.8 for God's Lake Narrows and 197.4 for Island Lake.

Furthermore, Island Lake has the highest index among communities surveyed for all 10 of the food groups in the survey. However, God's Lake Narrows has the highest index for the Fresh Vegetables sub-group (212.3 compared to 204.0 in Island Lake) and for the Fish sub-group, both Lynn Lake and Wabowden have higher indices than God's Lake Narrows and Island Lake.

In God's Lake Narrows, Dairy Products has the highest food group index (209.0), followed by Beverages (206.1) and Fruit & Vegetables (195.5). In Island Lake, Beverages has the highest index (309.6) followed by Eggs (219.6) and Dairy Products (212.7).

In both communities, Fats & Oils has the lowest food group index (142.6 for God's Lake Narrows; 155.2 for Island Lake), and Meat, Poultry & Fish is second lowest (142.7 for God's Lake Narrows; 157.6 for Island Lake). Frozen Foods has the third lowest food group index in God's Lake Narrows (158.8), while Cereal & Bakery Products is third lowest in Island Lake (169.6).

TABLE 2: AVERAGE RETAIL FOOD PRICES FOR SELECTED MANITOBA COMMUNITIES

DECEMBER, 2000

FOOD ITEMS	BERENS RIVER	BRANDON	CHURCHILL	CROSS LAKE	FLIN FLON	GILLAM	GOD'S LAKE NARROWS	GRAND RAPIDS	ISLAND LAKE
1 L MILK	...	1.22	2.05	1.69	...	1.49	2.89	1.50	2.99
454 G BUTTER	...	3.06	3.29	3.82	...	3.35	3.59	3.45	4.19
400 G CHEDDAR CHEESE	...	6.74	...	7.24	...	5.95	7.89	...	7.49
525 G CORN FLAKES	...	4.32	4.52	4.59	...	3.85	5.49	...	4.99
5 KG FLOUR	...	6.64	10.34	...	...	8.29	14.49	...	...
500 G MACARONI	...	1.69	2.09	...	...	...	2.49	...	2.29
675 G WHITE BREAD	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
907 G MARGARINE	...	5.14	5.99	5.29	...	5.15	7.09	...	7.69
1 L COOKING OIL	...	3.99	...	...	...	3.95	5.39	3.72	5.79
500 G BACON	...	5.84	...	5.34	...	4.89	...	5.19	...
1 KG ROUND STEAK	...	8.39	...	9.89	...	10.47	12.99	...	12.89
1 KG BLADE ROAST	...	...	...	8.11	...	...	...	...	...
1 KG STEWING BEEF	...	6.91	7.54	9.03	...	7.59	8.99	7.19	9.99
1 KG GROUND BEEF	...	3.62	5.35	4.49	...	...	9.29	6.25	9.99
1 KG PORK CHOPS	...	9.42	9.13	...	...	13.19	10.59	7.50	13.49
450 G WEINERS	...	3.94	4.85	3.39	...	3.29	...	...	...
340 G LUNCHEON MEAT	...	2.99	3.39	3.39	...	2.79	3.69	3.25	3.69
1 KG CHICKEN	...	5.71	5.14	5.89	...	5.79	8.09	5.09	8.69
213 G PINK SALMON	...	2.29	...	...	...	2.05	2.59	2.25	2.69
1 DOZ. LARGE EGGS	...	1.84	2.14	2.14	...	2.05	2.89	2.30	3.69
1 KG ORANGES	...	2.39	2.48	3.64	...	2.42	4.39	2.75	4.99
1 KG APPLES	...	2.16	3.25	3.17	...	3.49	4.89	2.50	5.49
398 ML CANNED PEACHES	...	1.89	2.24	2.19	...	1.89	2.89	1.91	2.69
1 L ORANGE JUICE	...	1.69	2.42	...	...	1.95	3.59	2.08	3.49
4.54 KG POTATOES	...	3.24	6.74	5.14	...	...	11.19	...	12.99
907 G CARROTS	...	1.24	1.96	1.99	...	1.55	2.99	2.24	3.19
1.36 KG ONIONS	...	1.48	1.40	1.99	...	1.95	...	2.74	...
1 HEAD LETTUCE	...	1.88	1.87	2.19	...	3.03	3.09	2.04	2.99
398 ML CANNED PEAS	...	1.26	1.69	1.49	...	1.35	...	...	...
398 ML BAKED BEANS	...	1.19	1.54	1.39	...	1.09	2.09	...	2.29
1 KG FROZEN POTATOES	...	2.99	3.59	...	...	2.75	4.89	...	5.39
225 G MACARONI & CHEESE	...	0.99	1.47	1.34	...	1.15	1.69	1.20	1.79
284 ML CANNED SOUP	...	0.78	1.27	0.99	...	0.85	...	0.72	1.29
500 ML PEANUT BUTTER	...	3.69	4.19	4.24	...	3.59	4.79	...	4.99
500 ML STRAWBERRY JAM	...	4.29	4.74	4.94	...	4.05	5.89	4.85	6.29
4 KG SUGAR	...	4.24	6.49	6.04	...	7.35	7.29	5.11	7.99
200 G INSTANT COFFEE	...	6.24	7.89	5.09	...	5.99	8.59	6.28	8.69
1 L SOFT DRINK	...	1.34	2.49	...	...	1.89	2.99	...	4.49

... DATA NOT AVAILABLE

DATA SOURCE: MANITOBA BUREAU OF STATISTICS
PRICES MONITORING SURVEY

II. Average Food Prices:

Table 2 presents average retail prices for 38 specific items from the December 2000 Prices Monitoring Survey. Identical brands have been used for calculation of average prices therefore prices are not available for all food items in all communities.

This table is not only an indicator of relative prices but can also indicate the degree of food selection available in each community. Food selection is indicated to be relatively poor in Grand Rapids, where only 23 of the 38 items in this table were available at the time of the survey. In South Indian Lake and Wabowden, 26 of the 38 items were available.

In contrast, all 38 of the selected items were available in stores in Winnipeg and The Pas. Thirty-six were available in Brandon, 35 in Thompson and 34 in Norway House and Snow Lake.

Fewer items priced in a community tends to have a negative impact on the validity of the indices calculated. In general, fewer matches for a community will result in a less valid food price index, because each item matched has a greater relative contribution to the community index.

One litre of Homogenized Milk is least expensive in Brandon at $1.22 and Winnipeg at $1.24. It is most expensive in Island Lake at $2.99, and God's Lake Narrows at $2.89. In the remaining communities one litre of milk ranged from $1.33 in Thompson to $2.05 in Churchill. The Churchill price is 65% higher than Winnipeg; the Island Lake price 141% higher.

Winnipeg had the lowest price for one pound of Butter (454 grams) at $2.86, followed by Brandon at $3.06. The highest prices for butter were $4.19 in Island Lake and $3.99 in Norway House.

A five-kilogram bag of white Flour ranged from a low of $6.64 in Brandon to a high of $14.49 in God's Lake Narrows. The next lowest prices were $6.74 in Thompson, $6.82 in Winnipeg and $7.99 in Wabowden. The second highest price was $10.34 in Churchill. A price for this item was not collected from Island Lake.

A particular brand of Margarine (907 grams) was $4.62 in Winnipeg, $4.89 in Thompson, $5.14 in Brandon and $5.15 in Gillam. The highest prices for this Margarine were $7.69 in Island Lake, $7.09 in God's Lake Narrows and $6.09 in Norway House.

The price of one litre of Cooking Oil averaged $3.99 in Winnipeg and Brandon, and cost slightly less in three other communities: $3.72 in Grand Rapids, $3.95 in Gillam, $3.98 in Thompson. Highest prices for Cooking Oil were $5.79 in Island Lake, $5.39 in God's Lake Narrows and $5.15 in both Lynn Lake and South Indian Lake.

The lowest prices for regular Ground Beef were $3.56 per kilogram in Winnipeg, $3.62 in Brandon and $3.82 in Thompson. Ground Beef was most expensive in Island Lake at $9.99 per kilogram, and God's Lake Narrows at $9.29. Elsewhere, the price ranged from $4.32 in The Pas and $4.49 in both Cross Lake and South Indian Lake, to $6.25 in Grand Rapids.

TABLE 2: (Cont.) AVERAGE RETAIL FOOD PRICES FOR SELECTED MANITOBA COMMUNITIES

DECEMBER, 2000

FOOD ITEMS	LEAF RAPIDS	LYNN LAKE	NORWAY HOUSE	SNOW LAKE	SOUTH INDIAN LAKE	THE PAS	THOMPSON	WABOWDEN	WINNIPEG
1 L MILK	1.65	1.85	1.79	1.46	...	1.45	1.33	1.79	1.24
454 G BUTTER	3.57	3.59	3.99	3.92	...	3.62	3.72	3.25	2.86
400 G CHEDDAR CHEESE	6.95	6.69	6.79	6.44	6.99	5.74	4.99	...	5.49
525 G CORN FLAKES	3.99	...	4.69	4.34	...	4.39	4.38	4.49	3.79
5 KG FLOUR	8.65	9.79	8.99	9.84	9.99	8.24	6.74	7.99	6.82
500 G MACARONI	1.85	1.99	1.49	1.79	1.99	1.84	...	1.89	1.39
675 G WHITE BREAD	2.69	2.65	2.99	2.44	3.15	2.69	...	...	1.89
907 G MARGARINE	5.69	6.05	6.09	5.19	...	5.49	4.89	...	4.62
1 L COOKING OIL	4.15	5.15	4.64	4.64	5.15	4.64	3.98	...	3.99
500 G BACON	5.89	5.89	5.49	...	...	4.89	6.19	...	5.62
1 KG ROUND STEAK	11.59	11.90	10.89	7.23	9.79	10.82	9.46	10.05	8.65
1 KG BLADE ROAST	...	...	7.69	4.39	6.59	6.95	...	6.49	5.93
1 KG STEWING BEEF	8.19	...	7.49	...	7.49	7.62	6.35	7.35	6.49
1 KG GROUND BEEF	4.59	4.90	5.34	5.99	4.49	4.32	3.82	6.96	3.56
1 KG PORK CHOPS	...	...	...	6.98	13.79	11.99	11.66	...	9.43
450 G WEINERS	3.69	...	...	3.89	...	2.89	4.09	...	3.77
340 G LUNCHEON MEAT	3.15	3.25	3.29	3.14	3.19	3.39	3.14	3.29	2.82
1 KG CHICKEN	6.79	...	5.99	4.14	6.69	5.93	5.80	4.05	5.47
213 G PINK SALMON	...	2.29	...	2.34	...	2.69	2.24	...	2.24
1 DOZ. LARGE EGGS	2.05	2.19	1.99	2.02	2.49	1.89	1.88	2.35	1.62
1 KG ORANGES	2.84	2.50	2.62	2.40	...	2.44	2.50	2.49	2.39
1 KG APPLES	...	...	2.21	...	3.19	2.48	2.28	...	2.17
398 ML CANNED PEACHES	1.95	2.25	2.14	2.09	2.29	1.50	1.99	2.19	1.78
1 L ORANGE JUICE	2.15	2.39	2.14	1.99	2.45	1.39	1.89	1.79	1.60
4.54 KG POTATOES	4.99	5.49	3.59	4.37	...	2.99	3.74	3.95	3.24
907 G CARROTS	1.29	1.75	1.15	1.29	1.85	1.29	1.28	1.09	1.68
1.36 KG ONIONS	1.18	...	1.19	1.74	2.49	2.14	1.28	1.79	1.26
1 HEAD LETTUCE	2.24	0.99	1.54	1.44	...	1.59	1.94	1.69	1.94
398 ML CANNED PEAS	...	...	1.54	1.64	...	1.29	1.28	...	1.09
398 ML BAKED BEANS	1.19	1.49	1.34	1.49	1.49	1.29	1.29	1.45	1.22
1 KG FROZEN POTATOES	2.99	3.59	3.14	3.24	3.85	3.39	2.99	...	2.74
225 G MACARONI & CHEESE	0.95	1.39	1.34	1.34	1.35	1.14	0.99	1.39	0.85
284 ML CANNED SOUP	0.99	1.09	1.04	0.99	1.09	0.74	0.69	1.09	0.62
500 ML PEANUT BUTTER	3.69	4.05	4.09	4.29	...	4.69	3.99	...	3.72
500 ML STRAWBERRY JAM	4.79	4.85	4.79	4.89	4.85	5.44	4.14	4.69	3.86
4 KG SUGAR	6.39	7.39	5.19	5.77	7.49	4.59	4.98	5.99	3.98
200 G INSTANT COFFEE	...	7.75	7.49	7.34	7.19	8.44	5.99	8.99	5.66
1 L SOFT DRINK	1.89	1.99	...	...	2.59	1.59	1.39	1.89	1.31

... DATA NOT AVAILABLE

DATA SOURCE MANITOBA BUREAU OF STATISTICS
PRICES MONITORING SURVEY

The lowest prices for centre cut Pork Chops were $6.98 in Snow Lake, $7.50 in Grand Rapids and $9.13 in Churchill. Next lowest was $9.42 in Brandon and $9.43 in Winnipeg. The highest prices for Pork chops were $13.79 in South Indian Lake, $13.49 in Island Lake, $13.19 in Gillam and $11.99 in The Pas.

The lowest per-kilogram prices for Chicken (whole cut-up) were $4.05 in Wabowden and $4.14 in Snow Lake. The highest prices were $8.69 in Island Lake and $8.09 in God's Lake Narrows. Elsewhere, the price of Chicken ranged from $5.09 in Grand Rapids to $6.79 in Leaf Rapids. The average Winnipeg price was $5.47.

The lowest prices for one dozen large Eggs were $1.62 in Winnipeg and $1.84 in Brandon. Eggs were also under $2.00/dozen in Norway House, The Pas and Thompson. Highest Egg prices were $3.69 in Island Lake and $2.89 in God's Lake Narrows.

Medium sized navel Oranges were priced at $2.39 in Winnipeg and Brandon, $2.40 in Snow Lake, $2.42 in Gillam, $2.44 in The Pas, $2.48 in Churchill and $2.49 in Wabowden. The highest prices were $4.99 in Island Lake, $4.39 in God's Lake Narrows and $3.64 in Cross Lake.

A ten-pound bag of Red Potatoes (4.54 kilogram) was priced lowest in The Pas, at $2.99, followed by Brandon and Winnipeg at $3.24. This quantity of Potatoes was also under $4.00 in Norway House, Thompson and Wabowden. Highest Potato prices were $12.99 in Island Lake, $11.19 in God's Lake and $6.74 in Churchill. The Churchill price is 108% higher than Winnipeg; the Island Lake price 301% higher and The Pas price 8% lower than Winnipeg.

A 907-gram bag of Carrots was priced lowest in Wabowden at $1.09, Norway House at $1.15 and Brandon at $1.24. Several communities had an average price of $1.28 and $1.29. In Winnipeg, A 907-gram bag of Carrots cost $1.68 on average. The highest prices were $3.19 in Island Lake, $2.99 in God's Lake Narrows and $2.24 in Grand Rapids.

The lowest prices for one kilogram of frozen French Fries were $2.74 in Winnipeg, $2.75 in Gillam and $2.99 in Brandon, Leaf Rapids and Thompson. Highest prices were $5.39 in Island Lake, $4.89 in God's Lake Narrows, $3.85 in South Indian Lake and $3.59 in both Churchill and Lynn Lake.

Macaroni and Cheese Dinners were $0.85 in Winnipeg, $0.95 in Leaf Rapids and $0.99 in both Brandon and Thompson. Highest prices were $1.79 in Island Lake, $1.69 in God's Lake Narrows and $1.47 in Churchill.

The lowest prices for four kilograms of White Sugar were $3.98 in Winnipeg and $4.24 in Brandon. The price of Sugar was also under $5.00 in The Pas and Thompson. In 5 communities the price was over $7.00, the highest being in Island Lake ($7.99) and South Indian Lake ($7.49).

The lowest prices for Instant Coffee (200-gram jar) were $5.09 in Cross Lake, $5.66 in Winnipeg and $5.99 in both Gillam and Thompson. Coffee was most expensive in Wabowden ($8.99), Island Lake ($8.69), God's Lake Narrows ($8.59) and The Pas ($8.44).

The price of a one litre Soft Drink averaged $1.31 in Winnipeg, $1.34 in Brandon and $1.39 in Thompson. Highest prices were $4.49 in Island Lake, $2.99 in God's Lake Narrows, $2.59 in South Indian Lake and $2.49 in Churchill. Elsewhere, the price ranged from $1.59 to $1.99.

APPENDIX

1999 SURVEY RESULTS

TABLE 3: SPATIAL RETAIL FOOD PRICE INDICES FOR SELECTED MANITOBA COMMUNITIES
DECEMBER, 1999

FOOD GROUPS	BERENS RIVER	BRANDON	CHURCHILL	CROSS LAKE	FLIN FLON	GILLAM	GOD'S LAKE NARROWS	GRAND RAPIDS	ISLAND LAKE
				(WINNIPEG = 100.0)					
DAIRY PRODUCTS	187.5	100.5	151.8	130.6	115.1	126.0	199.5	125.1	228.3
CEREAL & BAKERY PRODUCTS	152.3	102.3	133.6	120.1	117.1	112.4	167.1	113.7	172.0
FATS & OILS	137.6	103.8	122.2	122.5	120.8	105.2	134.2	106.2	157.9
MEAT, POULTRY & FISH	127.7	102.6	124.7	115.8	107.9	117.8	141.1	109.7	161.9
Meat	130.4	103.2	130.3	114.8	108.8	115.9	137.7	109.3	154.7
Poultry	124.5	101.0	107.9	116.4	105.3	130.0	156.0	108.1	193.2
Fish	116.2	101.7	119.7	120.9	106.7	107.5	135.9	115.6	150.6
EGGS	132.0	103.4	119.6	129.5	112.4	113.7	168.3	135.7	193.7
FRUIT & VEGETABLES	178.1	101.6	138.2	129.6	123.3	125.4	202.6	130.7	224.7
Fresh Fruit	189.5	102.4	139.4	130.1	121.3	141.2	212.4	132.0	253.8
Processed Fruit	148.6	100.4	152.3	131.0	141.9	119.6	220.2	115.8	224.7
Fresh Vegetables	194.0	100.9	129.0	127.8	112.3	116.0	185.7	141.7	205.9
Processed Vegetables	152.9	104.6	130.0	130.4	122.5	112.7	179.9	124.7	178.9
FROZEN FOODS	147.7	104.0	132.7	117.6	119.7	108.2	162.9	113.8	172.4
DISHES & SNACKS	151.5	103.2	130.6	116.1	116.6	114.8	155.7	107.1	179.4
OTHER FOODS	153.2	103.5	138.6	124.3	114.3	112.2	172.2	115.9	165.7
BEVERAGES	161.0	101.9	162.8	146.2	140.2	126.3	211.5	126.3	240.9
COMMUNITY INDEX	155.9	102.1	138.0	125.4	117.9	119.4	175.7	119.1	194.1

... DATA NOT AVAILABLE

DATA SOURCE: MANITOBA BUREAU OF STATISTICS
PRICES MONITORING SURVEY

TABLE 3: (Cont.) SPATIAL RETAIL FOOD PRICE INDICES FOR SELECTED MANITOBA COMMUNITIES
DECEMBER, 1999

FOOD GROUPS	LEAF RAPIDS	LYNN LAKE	NORWAY HOUSE	SNOW LAKE	SOUTH INDIAN LAKE	THE PAS	THOMPSON	WABOWDEN
	(WINNIPEG = 100.0)							
DAIRY PRODUCTS	129.7	129.9	129.8	127.8	190.6	121.0	110.9	124.1
CEREAL & BAKERY PRODUCTS	123.4	127.1	121.9	125.2	138.7	110.6	106.0	117.2
FATS & OILS	111.9	125.4	118.7	122.0	132.9	115.8	106.1	125.2
MEAT, POULTRY & FISH	126.6	115.0	113.8	105.7	132.9	113.7	110.7	109.0
Meat	131.1	117.3	115.7	107.3	141.1	112.0	112.6	111.6
Poultry	117.1	108.8	109.4	101.0	119.5	122.3	106.5	99.1
Fish	115.7	111.9	109.5	103.6	105.1	109.2	105.7	110.5
EGGS	113.8	125.1	132.1	116.0	154.1	128.6	104.2	132.6
FRUIT & VEGETABLES	125.3	133.3	122.5	118.1	151.0	112.6	105.9	118.1
Fresh Fruit	133.6	134.2	124.7	113.8	169.2	110.8	104.5	118.7
Processed Fruit	131.8	131.8	126.0	135.9	129.5	123.9	107.9	126.6
Fresh Vegetables	112.2	133.7	116.1	107.5	150.6	105.3	106.3	110.8
Processed Vegetables	123.4	132.6	128.0	126.9	137.1	116.0	104.5	119.9
FROZEN FOODS	120.0	137.4	120.0	130.5	147.4	110.3	106.8	130.0
DISHES & SNACKS	122.0	126.0	114.5	110.9	138.1	110.4	104.6	118.9
OTHER FOODS	121.7	137.5	129.0	123.0	135.6	116.2	109.7	140.7
BEVERAGES	132.0	142.0	144.2	137.3	164.9	127.0	106.4	136.6
COMMUNITY INDEX	125.9	128.1	124.0	120.2	150.1	115.9	108.3	121.0

... DATA NOT AVAILABLE

DATA SOURCE: MANITOBA BUREAU OF STATISTICS
PRICES MONITORING SURVEY

TABLE 4: AVERAGE RETAIL FOOD PRICES FOR SELECTED MANITOBA COMMUNITIES

DECEMBER, 1999

FOOD ITEMS	BERENS RIVER	BRANDON	CHURCHILL	CROSS LAKE	FLIN FLON	GILLAM	GOD'S LAKE NARROWS	GRAND RAPIDS	ISLAND LAKE
1 L MILK	...	1.26	1.83	1.49	1.32	1.42	2.69	1.50	2.79
454 G BUTTER	3.74	2.99	3.27	3.24	3.32	3.14	3.69	3.45	3.99
454 G CHEDDAR CHEESE	...	6.99	7.59	7.99	8.02	6.59	...	6.46	8.39
525 G CORN FLAKES	5.84	3.79	4.19	4.49	4.09	3.69	4.88	...	4.99
5 KG FLOUR	11.19	5.99	8.49	8.99	9.29	...	...	...	10.49
500 G MACARONI	2.39	1.49	1.89	2.04	1.94	...	2.39	1.63	2.19
675 G WHITE BREAD	...	1.99	...	1.69	...	...	...	...	...
907 G MARGARINE	...	4.94	...	5.64	5.19	5.39	...	...	7.49
1 L COOKING OIL	5.79	3.99	5.07	4.69	3.79	3.95	...	3.76	6.29
500 G BACON	5.49	4.84	...	4.19	4.29	...	4.19	...	5.29
1 KG ROUND STEAK	...	7.19	9.89	9.83	9.94	9.69	...	...	11.89
1 KG BLADE ROAST	...	7.25	...	8.49	6.59	8.49	...	...	...
1 KG STEWING BEEF	8.35	7.18	7.69	7.10	7.29	7.19	8.99	7.09	9.99
1 KG GROUND BEEF	6.94	2.84	5.69	4.18	3.51	...	5.59	...	9.99
1 KG PORK CHOPS	10.49	8.28	15.89	9.64	9.90	13.99	...	6.60	...
450 G WEINERS	3.29	3.64	...	3.39	3.24	3.29	3.09	...	...
340 G LUNCHEON MEAT	3.64	2.89	2.99	2.69	3.02	2.79	3.68	3.04	3.79
1 KG CHICKEN	...	4.68	...	5.47	...	5.79	...	5.09	8.79
213 G PINK SALMON	2.74	2.19	2.39	2.54	2.89	1.89	...	...	...
1 DOZ. LARGE EGGS	2.24	1.80	2.09	2.29	1.92	1.99	2.89	2.30	3.39
1 KG ORANGES	3.28	2.06	3.23	2.18	2.62	3.35	3.59	3.36	4.99
1 KG APPLES	...	2.06	3.22	2.96	2.84	3.15	...	2.13	5.19
398 ML CANNED PEACHES	...	1.94	1.99	2.19	2.19	1.79	2.79	1.82	2.89
1 L ORANGE JUICE	2.74	1.69	2.19	1.99	1.92	1.79	3.49	...	3.69
4.54 KG POTATOES	6.29	3.44	5.52	3.89	4.94	4.35	10.39	4.54	11.99
907 G CARROTS	2.97	1.24	1.54	1.29	1.09	1.29	3.19	2.65	3.09
1.36 KG ONIONS	4.69	1.34	1.98	1.84	1.08	1.69	...	2.11	4.79
1 HEAD LETTUCE	2.39	1.74	1.55	1.44	1.39	1.50	1.59	1.50	2.99
398 ML CANNED PEAS	1.69	1.19	1.69	1.59	1.52	1.35	...	1.44	...
398 ML BAKED BEANS	1.69	1.12	1.49	1.39	1.27	1.05	1.99	1.08	2.19
1 KG FROZEN POTATOES	3.84	2.64	4.59	...	2.84	2.75	4.19	...	5.19
225 G MACARONI & CHEESE	1.79	0.99	1.54	1.34	1.17	1.05	1.69	1.20	1.79
284 ML CANNED SOUP	1.29	0.74	1.25	0.99	0.82	0.85	1.49	0.93	1.29
500 ML PEANUT BUTTER	5.69	3.74	4.14	3.99	4.62	3.29	4.59	3.99	4.89
500 ML STRAWBERRY JAM	4.99	4.24	5.39	4.24	5.17	4.05	5.69	5.60	6.09
4 KG SUGAR	6.00	4.24	5.95	5.14	5.04	5.95	7.89	5.11	7.99
200 G INSTANT COFFEE	9.34	5.74	...	9.64	8.12	5.59	...	...	8.09
1 L SOFT DRINK	2.34	...	2.49	1.79	1.84	1.85	3.79	...	4.29

... DATA NOT AVAILABLE

DATA SOURCE: MANITOBA BUREAU OF STATISTICS
PRICES MONITORING SURVEY

TABLE 4: (Cont.) AVERAGE RETAIL FOOD PRICES FOR SELECTED MANITOBA COMMUNITIES

DECEMBER, 1999

FOOD ITEMS	LEAF RAPIDS	LYNN LAKE	NORWAY HOUSE	SNOW LAKE	SOUTH INDIAN LAKE	THE PAS	THOMPSON	WABOWDEN	WINNIPEG
1 L MILK	1.55	1.55	1.59	1.44	...	1.34	1.33	1.45	1.26
454 G BUTTER	3.55	3.54	3.49	3.62	3.25	3.36	3.29	3.25	2.87
454 G CHEDDAR CHEESE	6.95	7.59	6.99	7.09	...	6.19	...	...	7.06
525 G CORN FLAKES	4.85	...	...	3.74	2.99	4.22	4.09	3.99	3.96
5 KG FLOUR	8.65	9.49	8.99	10.85	9.45	8.74	6.89	7.99	6.74
500 G MACARONI	1.69	1.89	1.77	1.79	1.89	1.89	...	1.89	1.00
675 G WHITE BREAD	2.65	2.45	...	2.09	...	1.69	1.99	1.99	1.99
907 G MARGARINE	5.69	6.09	3.89	5.19	...	4.99	4.94	5.99	4.56
1 L COOKING OIL	3.85	4.99	4.54	4.19	...	4.09	3.99	...	4.06
500 G BACON	4.89	4.69	4.69	4.32	...	4.04	5.14	...	4.52
1 KG ROUND STEAK	11.59	...	9.99	8.99	...	9.99	9.22	...	7.97
1 KG BLADE ROAST	8.99	7.49	7.39	6.99	...	...	...	6.45	7.18
1 KG STEWING BEEF	8.19	7.49	7.09	6.02	8.79	8.80	7.91	5.95	6.54
1 KG GROUND BEEF	4.09	4.39	3.99	2.99	...	4.17	3.60	...	2.50
1 KG PORK CHOPS	9.09	8.59	8.99	8.59	...	11.99	10.54	...	8.68
450 G WEINERS	3.49	3.09	3.39	3.59	...	3.09	3.89	...	3.74
340 G LUNCHEON MEAT	3.15	3.25	2.74	3.09	2.79	2.24	2.99	3.29	2.76
1 KG CHICKEN	6.19	5.59	5.69	4.44	6.99	5.66	4.60	3.95	5.13
213 G PINK SALMON	2.35	...	2.35	2.39	...	2.59	2.19	...	2.19
1 DOZ. LARGE EGGS	1.99	2.19	2.24	1.99	2.45	2.12	1.88	2.25	1.75
1 KG ORANGES	3.03	3.06	2.79	2.19	3.99	2.18	2.39	2.69	2.18
1 KG APPLES	2.62	2.99	2.84	2.29	...	2.48	2.18	2.49	2.31
398 ML CANNED PEACHES	2.00	2.19	2.19	2.09	2.25	1.94	1.94	2.19	1.94
1 L ORANGE JUICE	2.15	1.49	2.20	2.09	2.19	1.59	1.74	1.75	1.51
4.54 KG POTATOES	4.49	4.99	4.34	3.79	5.29	3.74	3.98	3.99	3.34
907 G CARROTS	1.29	1.49	1.29	1.45	2.89	1.09	1.14	1.09	1.16
1.36 KG ONIONS	1.49	2.39	1.24	1.94	...	1.29	1.24	1.49	1.29
1 HEAD LETTUCE	1.49	1.29	1.14	1.07	1.79	0.99	1.64	...	1.58
398 ML CANNED PEAS	1.45	...	1.69	1.64	1.65	1.34	1.39	1.59	1.24
398 ML BAKED BEANS	1.19	1.29	1.47	1.49	1.45	1.34	1.09	1.45	1.10
1 KG FROZEN POTATOES	2.99	3.05	3.24	3.72	...	2.99	2.79	...	2.66
225 G MACARONI & CHEESE	1.05	1.39	1.59	1.34	1.39	1.24	0.98	1.39	1.02
284 ML CANNED SOUP	1.09	1.09	1.02	0.89	1.05	0.56	0.77	1.09	0.69
500 ML PEANUT BUTTER	3.69	4.05	4.29	3.99	3.99	3.99	3.99	...	3.59
500 ML STRAWBERRY JAM	4.79	4.69	5.29	4.74	4.69	5.19	4.48	...	3.99
4 KG SUGAR	5.85	6.15	5.19	5.73	...	4.89	4.24	6.59	4.42
200 G INSTANT COFFEE	6.39	7.19	8.14	7.84	7.19	7.44	5.99	...	6.12
1 L SOFT DRINK	1.79	1.99	...	1.84	...	1.59	1.48	1.89	1.29

... DATA NOT AVAILABLE

DATA SOURCE MANITOBA BUREAU OF STATISTICS
PRICES MONITORING SURVEY